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<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/11106</p> <p>(22) International Filing Date: 26 June 1997 (26.06.97)</p> <p>(30) Priority Data: 08/675,644 3 July 1996 (03.07.96) US</p> <p>(71) Applicant: BAXTER INTERNATIONAL INC. [US/US]; One Baxter Parkway, Deerfield, IL 60015 (US).</p> <p>(72) Inventors: SHANNON, Donald, T.; 22161 Cosala Street, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 (US). KUO, Chris; 4428 West Teller, Orange, CA 92868 (US). MCINTYRE, John; 1163 Cordoba, Vista, CA 92083 (US). CLINKENBEARD, Ronald, L.; 26562 Montecito Lane, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 (US). CHU, Yizi; 1405 East Franzen Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92705 (US). TU, Benny; 22812 Larkin Street, Lake Forest, CA 92630 (US).</p> <p>(74) Agents: CANTER, Bruce, M. et al.; Baxter Healthcare Corporation, P.O. Box 15210, Irvine, CA 92623-5210 (US).</p>		<p>(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</p> <p>Published <i>Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.</i></p>
<p>(54) Title: STENTED, RADIALY EXPANDABLE, TUBULAR PTFE GRAFTS</p> <div data-bbox="305 1144 1372 1543"> </div> <p>(57) Abstract</p> <p>Stented tubular grafts of expanded, sintered polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE). The stented PTFE grafts of the present invention include an integrally stented embodiment, an externally stented embodiment, and an internally stented embodiment. In each embodiment, the stent may be either self-expanding or pressure-expandable. Also, in each embodiment, the stent may be coated or covered with a plastic material capable of being affixed (e.g., heat fused) to PTFE. Manufacturing methods are also disclosed by the individual components of the stented grafts, are preassembled on a mandrel and are subsequently heated to facilitate attachment of the PTFE layer(s) to one another and/or to the stent. Optionally, the stented graft may be post-flexed and post-expanded following its removal from the mandrel to ensure that the stented graft will be freely radially expandable and/or radially contractible over its full intended range of diameters.</p>		